

## Budget Unit: English Language Learner Pilots

BU Number: 282TP080001

### Overview

[Senate File 2347](#) establishes an English Language Literacy Grant Program within the Department of Education (DE). The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to school districts to pilot and identify the best methods to teach English Language Literacy throughout Iowa. Priority for the Grants will be given to the school districts with the following:

- High percentage of students identified as limited English proficient.
- Large numbers of students determined to be limited English proficient.
- School districts with an exceptional diversity of languages of origin spoken by students determined to be limited English proficient.

Grants from the DE may be awarded to school districts for up to three years. The DE and the school districts receiving a Grant must enter into a performance agreement that identifies clear literacy achievement goals for limited English proficient students enrolled in the school districts. The performance agreement must include an accountability system to measure student performance and evaluate program effectiveness to ensure that program goals are met. School districts are able to use the grant money for professional development for professional staff providing instructional services to limited English proficient students.

### Reporting

If a school district is awarded an English Language Literacy Grant, and is one of the 25 school districts with the largest number of students identified as limited English proficient, and is receiving educational programming because of the identification then the school district is required to submit a report by November 15, 2014, to the DE that includes the following information:

- Cost accounting of money spent on limited English proficiency programming by the school district.
- Identification of all native languages represented by limited English proficient students served by the school district.
- The average number of years in English language learner programming for limited English proficient students served by the school district.
- The number of full-time equivalent employees directly serving limited English proficient students and the student to teacher ratio for the students.
- Review of the number and percentage of limited English proficient students achieving English language proficiency over the previous five years.
- A list of English language learner programs not developed by the district that are being utilized by the school district for limited English proficient students.

### Funding

This is a new appropriation for FY 2015. [Senate File 2347](#) (FY 2015 Education Appropriation Act) appropriates \$500,000 for the English Language Literacy Grant Program.

### Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code section [256.9 \(65\)](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [281 IAC](#)

### More Information

Iowa Department of Education Programing Information:

<https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/learner-supports/english-language-learners>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov>

LSA Staff Contact: John Parker (515-725-2249) [john.parker@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:john.parker@legis.iowa.gov)